



THE EASTERN IOWA DX'ER

SUMMER 1989

CLUB NEWSLETTER OF THE EASTERN IOWA DX ASSOCIATION

Club Officers

President: NUØP Steve White

Vice-Pres: WBBZRL Tom Vavra

Sec/Treas: NCØØ Tom Hise

Awards/Contest: WØWP Tom Lindgren

Newsletter Asst: W4NIM Bob Hill

The Eastern Iowa DX Association's Summer meeting will be held Saturday the 5th of August at 1:00 pm at the CVARC hamfest held in the Teamsters Hall in Cedar Rapids. Talk-in on 16/76 and 52. The meeting room is on the second floor like last year.

Minutes of EIDX A meeting 21 April, 1989

The meeting was called to order by NUØP at 7:35. Guests present were WDØEIF, WØØV, NMØF, WRØU, and WAØFYG.

A motion was made by W4NIM to accept the minutes of the last meeting and treasurers report as published in the newsletter. The motion was seconded by WØEJ and approved by the members present.

Tim Allan, KØUYH, was nominated for full membership and approved by the members present.

Reports and comments were given:

- WØEJ - Packet cluster status.
- NUØP - Available locations for DXpeditions
- WØWP - Club member contest scores and ranking
- WØSR - DXAC report, Possible new countries and ethics in QSLing
- WØEJ - ARRL Section manager report.

NBØH introduced a motion to have a club vote to determine a consensus on the proposed no-code license and forward the results to the division director. Much discussion followed! The motion was finally voted on and defeated by a 10 to 5 vote (many abstentions).

WØMJN discussed the moving of the repeater transmit site. He asked for donations by the club members for costs of the move. Contributions were taken at that time - see the Treasurers report.

The report of the by-laws committee was given by WØSR. Again much discussion. Several members expressed concerns on the requirements for maintenance of membership. It was agreed that the committee would modify the wording of this section to allow maintenance of membership by submitting scores in DX contests. The details would be sent to each member in a separate mailing.

The meeting was adjourned at 09:48.

-----Attendance

W4NIM, KUØA, KØGYB, WØMJN, KØVM, WAØFYG, WDØAWL, KZØC, KKØR, KØUYH, WBØZKG, WDØEIF, WØØV, NMØF, KBØSY, WØSR, KFØZ, KCØQ, NBØH, NØSM, WBØB, WRØU, KØJGH, WØUZ, WØSML, WKØA, WEØU, KØRW, WØEJ, N4RR, WØWP, KØIIR, NCØØ, NUØP, WBBZRL, KØVZR.

TREASURERS REPORT
As of 14 July 1989

GENERAL FUND

Balance Forward \$394.43

INCOME

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Dues Received | 13.00* | |
| QST Subscription rebate (WEØM) | 2.00** | |
| Coffee Fund - APR meeting | 10.43 | |
| Interest (Jan-Jun) | 17.57 | |
| | ----- | |
| | \$43.00 | \$43.00 |

EXPENSES

| | | |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Apr Mtg Refreshments | \$ 9.87 | |
| Mailing for April Newsletter | 19.00 | |
| Mailing for By-laws ballot | 8.50 | |
| | ----- | |
| | -\$37.37 | -\$37.37 |

Current General Fund Balance \$400.06

REPEATER FUND

Balance Forward \$161.00

INCOME

Contributions 480.00*** 480.00

EXPENSES

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| New Repeater Antenna (CAP) | \$359.10 | |
| Cashiers check fee | 2.00 | |
| | ----- | |
| | -\$361.10 | -\$361.10 |

Current Repeater Fund Balance \$279.90

Notes:

* Dues are \$5.00 per year. I have received checks for dues for \$6.00 and \$8.00 (2-years).

** The ARRL will no longer give this rebate for renewal of membership unless the renewal is made through the club secretary.

*** Additional \$15.00 included with dues from a new applicant. Not included in total.

From May, June, Jul QST
DXCC Updates

Mixed
KDØRT 151
WBØB 167
KEØY 246

SSB
WKØI 144
NKØN 270
KEØY 192

CW
KØIIR 103
KEØY 203

10 Meter
WBØZKG 126
KØIIR 117

80 Meter
WØIZ 124
WØSR 113
WBØZRL 111

160 Meter
KØGVB 122

congrats to all

Club logo QSL cards. If you are interested in getting some QSL cards as part of a group buy, contact NUØP or N4RR.

Order forms for Club badges with name/call sign/etc can be obtained from NCØØ.

75 ohm Hardline. Large quantities of 1/2, 3/4, and 7/8 inch 75 ohm hardline in lengths of about 160 feet can be had for nothing but the drive to get it. If you are interested, contact NUØP.

EIDXA Membership list

15 July 1989

call statu p name

KUOA FULL Y Nelson Moyer 28 Ealing Dr. Iowa City, Ia 52246 319-351-8775 home 319-335-4500 work
 KQAL INACT Y Al Culbert 618 First Ave. Charles City, Ia 50616
 WDBAWL FULL Y Terry Cellman 703 Linow St. Ainsworth, Ia 52201 319-657-3681 home 319-648-2891 work
 WQBB FULL Y Larry J. Newby P.O. Box 185 West Burlington, Ia 52655 319-752-8700 home 319-754-4692 work
 WQBX FULL Y Lee L. McKee 1820 Briarwood Lane Muscatine, Ia 52761 319-263-8398 home
 KZOC FULL Y Jim Bohnsack 1169 Rainbow Dr. Waterloo, Ia 50701 319-233-7189 home
 WQBJ FULL Y Wade Walstrom 7431 Macon Drive NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52401 319-393-8982 home 124-311 as
 KQBT FULL Y Gary Toomsen 2730 Tower Dr. Cedar Rapids, Ia 52401 319-395-9329 home 137-122 as
 KQGBV FULL Y Gary Ernst RR 2 West Branch, Ia 52358 319-643-2287 home
 KFOH FULL Y Jim Harvey 819 N. Main St. Goldfield, Ia 50542 515-825-3323 home
 KJOH FULL Y John Schwandke 1108 E. Main Washington, Ia 52353 319-653-3686 home
 NBBH FULL Y Jack Muckler 2084 Eastern Blvd. SE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52403 319-362-3462 home
 WQHNJ ASSOC Y David Corio 38 Leisure Blvd. NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402 319-395-7973 home 319-395-8462 work
 WKBI FULL Y Terry Parker 535 Sierra Dr Burlington, Ia 52601 319-753-1557 home 319-753-8591 work
 KBIIR FULL Y Clark Pantel 1610 Hershey Ave. Muscatine, Ia 52761 319-263-9150 home 319-263-6141 work
 KBINR FULL Y Tom Taylor RR 1 Shell Rock, Ia 50670 319-885-4400 home 319-236-1500 work
 WQIZ FULL Y Dale Repp 1618 Texas Ave. NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402 319-393-6724 home
 KQJGH FULL Y Glen Kesselring RR #7 Box 160 Ottumwa, Ia 52501 515-934-5320 home
 NNBL FULL Y Ron Borkgren 1106 East 2nd St. Anamosa, Ia 52205 319-462-4113 home
 ABOM FULL Y Vern Lang 110 E. 2nd St. Muscatine, Ia 52761 319-263-2697 home
 WEDM ASSOC Y Tom Gordon 6904 Brentwood Dr. NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402 319-373-0757 home 319-851-7219 work
 WQMJN FULL Y Joe Finkstein 2210 Empire St. Marion, Ia 52302 319-377-6573 home 319-395-2294 work 106-124 as
 NQON FULL Y Orville Duecker 226 Southcrest Waterloo, Ia 50702 319-296-2390 home 319-233-3569 work
 WQNB FULL Y Jim Livengood R.R. 1, Ferre's Lane Burlington, Ia 52601 319-752-9310 home 319-752-2701 work
 WQNH FULL Y Bob Hill 2510 White Eagle Trail SE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52403 319-366-3975 home 319-393-5115 work
 NCQD FULL Y Tom Hise PO Box 104 Shellsburg, Ia 52332 319-436-7786 home 124-115 as
 NUOP FULL Y Steve White 5820 Sanden Rd. NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52401 319-393-4547 home 319-395-4641 work 124-313 as
 WQPPF FULL Y George Carsner 411 Terrace Rd. Iowa City, Ia 52240 319-338-1601 home 319-351-5033 work
 KCQD FULL Y Jeff Russell 2125 Linmar Dr. NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402 319-363-4139 home 319-395-4664 work 124-211 as
 KKQR FULL Y Bob Tillman 1257 Deloris Dr. Waterloo, Ia 50701 319-232-8223 home 515-858-3971 work
 N4RR FULL Y Roger Hoffman 17215 Timber Drive Sterling, Il 61081 815-625-6647 home
 KQORT FULL Y Brad Farrell 1401 Greenwood Dr Ottumwa, Ia 52501 515-684-7768 home 515-682-4535 work
 KQRW FULL Y John Lenahan 923 N. 9th St. Burlington, Ia 52601 319-753-6883 home 319-752-2731 work
 NQSN FULL Y Steve Miller Route 6 Box 100 Ottumwa, Ia 52501 515-684-4753 home
 WQSM FULL Y Doug Byal 4431 Deer View Rd, NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402 319-393-2974 home
 WQSR FULL Y Jim Spencer 3712 Tanager Dr. NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402 319-393-7353 home 319-395-2305 work 124-115 as
 KQOSY FULL Y Rick Cordle 515 20th St. SE Mason City, Ia 50401 515-424-8493 home
 WQOU ASSOC Y George Gruenther 1106 S. Leebrick Burlington, Ia 52601 319-753-1463 home 319-753-6253 work
 KQUYH FULL Y Timothy Allan 732 Wildwood Rd. Waterloo, Ia 50702 319-234-4215 home 319-292-8796 work
 WQUZ FULL Y John Nelson 3109 Terry Dr. SE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52403 319-365-4432 home
 NYQV FULL Y Tom Vinson 10211 Hall Road NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52401 319-393-8087 home 120-105 as
 KQVAA ASSOC Y Ralph Gearhart 5040 Broadview Dr SE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52403 319-366-0150 home 319-365-9461 work
 KQVM ASSOC Y Al Broff 1446 Council St. NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402 319-393-8134 home 319-395-4666 work 124-211 as
 WQVX INACT Y Dave Jaksa 626 Torrey Pines Ln Garland, Tx 75044
 KQVZR FULL Y Tom White RR#2 Jesup, Ia 50648 319-827-6738 home 319-334-7166 work
 NQWV FULL Y Keith Erickson 1810 Hillside Dr. NW Cedar Rapids, Ia 52405 319-396-8510 home 319-398-3551 work
 NXQW ASSOC Y Dan Veerhusen 1601 48th St. NE Cedar Rapids, Ia 52402 319-393-6726 home 319-395-4874 work
 WQWP FULL Y Tom Lindgren 1260 13th Ave. Marion, Ia 52302 319-377-4279 home 319-395-1953 work 107-110 as
 KEQY FULL Y Tom Kramer 905 LeRoy Muscatine, Ia 52761 319-264-3259 home
 KFQZ FULL Y Jan Clute 320 College Blvd. Mount Vernon, Ia 52314 319-895-6635 home 319-927-2143 work
 WQZKG FULL Y Chuck Dennis 480 E. Vine Toledo, Ia 52342 515-484-4837 home
 WQZRL FULL Y Tom Vavra 682 Palisades Access Rd. Ely, Ia 52227 319-848-7684 home

de NUØP rez

IT'S JUST ABOUT AUGUST AND TIME FOR ANOTHER CLUB MEETING AND HAMFEST. ON TAP FOR THIS MEETING ARE SEVERAL TOPICS WHICH SHOULD INTEREST EVERYONE. THE RESULTS OF OUR QUESTIONNAIRE TOPS THE LIST. TOM HISE (NCØØ) IS GOING TO FILL US IN ON THE RESULTS. ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING THINGS, AND PERHAPS NOT SURPRISING, IS THAT MOST OF THE RESPONDENTS THOUGHT THAT WE SHOULD HAVE MORE ACTIVITIES. I WHOLE HEARTEDLY AGREE WITH THIS FINDING. TO HELP THIS ALONG I WOULD LIKE TO GET A LARGE COMMITTEE/INFORMAL MEETING OF INTERESTED PEOPLE TOGETHER TO DISCUSS WHAT TYPES OF ACTIVITIES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED, PERHAPS OVER BEER AND PIZZA IN SOME CONVENIENT LOCATION. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HAS A COUPLE OF IDEAS THAT COULD BE USED AS A STARTING POINT BUT I WOULD LIKE TO GET MORE OF THE CLUB INVOLVED. A SEPTEMBER GET TOGETHER SEEMS LIKE A GOOD TIME FRAME SINCE I WOULD LIKE TO GET THESE IDEAS FILLED OUT BEFORE THE OCTOBER MEETING AND WE CAN BEGIN THE NEW CLUB YEAR WITH A GOOD START.

I WOULD LIKE TO BE ABLE TO TELL YOU THAT WE HAVE ADOPTED A NEW CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS BY NOW BUT I'M STILL WAITING TO GET THE LAST FEW BALLOTS IN. WE MUST HAVE BALLOTS FROM AT LEAST TWO THIRDS OF THE FULL MEMBERSHIP IN ORDER TO HAVE A VALID DETERMINATION. I HOPE TO BE ABLE TO REPORT THAT THE CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS ISSUE HAS PASSED AT THE UP COMING MEETING. I'M SURE THAT THEY WILL SERVE THE CLUB WELL IN THE UPCOMING YEARS AND PROVIDE A STIMULUS FOR THE MEMBERSHIP. ALTHOUGH THE BYLAWS AND CONSTITUTION NEEDED CHANGING, IT'S TIME FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS ISSUES WHICH WILL PROVIDE REAL BENEFITS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE EIDX.

THE REPEATER MOVE IS COMING ALONG NICELY AND IT'S QUITE A VIEW FROM THE TOP OF THE MARION WATER TOWER. WE SHOULD EXPECT MUCH IMPROVED TRANSMIT PERFORMANCE FROM THIS LOCATION. TO IMPROVE THE PERFORMANCE A BIT MORE WE ARE PLANNING TO ADJUST THE ANTENNA TO FAVOR THE SOUTH AND SOUTH EAST AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. A SPECIAL THANKS TO KØVM, WØWP, KØJGH, AND NØSM FOR THEIR HELP. WE ARE NOT DONE YET BUT READ WØMJN'S ARTICLE ON THE REPEATER IN THIS ISSUE FOR MORE DETAILS. WATER TOWERS ARE TALL AND NOISY ON THE INSIDE. WE ARE LOOKING FOR A COUPLE OF OTHER CLIMBERS TO HELP SO IF YOU HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO CLIMB ONE, HERE IS YOUR CHANCE.

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR EIDX QSL CARDS GET A HOLD OF ME AT THE NEXT MEETING AND TELL ME WHAT YOU NEED. IT'S TIME TO GET ANOTHER ORDER IN. RICHARD TIDBERG WF9J IN WINNEBAGO, ILL. (NEAR ROCKFORD) HAS 75 OHM HARD LINE FREE FOR THE ASKING, IF YOUR INTERESTED ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS DRIVE OVER AND PICK IT UP. IT'S ONLY ONE YEAR OLD AND IN GOOD SHAPE. JUST WHAT YOU NEED FOR THOSE LONG RUNS.

THAT'S IT FOR THIS ISSUE, SEE YOU ALL IN A COUPLE OF WEEKS. 73'S AND HAVE FUN.

Steve NUØP

Since the next few days may see a new one for all of us (except maybe KØGVB) I have included a listing from the MINIPROP program for conditions from EIDX land to 70 land. The numbers in each column are dB above/below S3 signals that you might expect. A number of 30 will signify 30 dB above S3 (usually 5 dB per S unit) or about S9. The letter after the number is an indication of the probability that the path will exist. See the bottom of the listing for info. Experience has shown that the program is quite accurate. I don't think I will spend much time on 10M looking for the 70. But then who knows? 73 & gud luck.

MINIPROP (TM) SHORT-PATH PREDICTIONS 07-26-1989 Path Length : 12477 km
 Sunspot Number : 147.9 Flux : 125.0 F Apps : 4 Radiation Angle : 5 deg
 TERMINAL A : 41.91 N 91.52 W WBZRL Bearing to B : 44.0 deg
 TERMINAL B : 14.00 N 47.00 E FOR of Yemen Bearing to A : 327.8 deg
 Terminal A Sunrise/Set : 1057/0128 UTC Terminal B Sunrise/Set : 0238/1519 UTC

----- SIGNAL LEVELS in dB ABOVE 0.5 uV -----

| UTC | MUF | 3.6 MHz | 7.1 MHz | 14.1 MHz | 21.2 MHz | 28.3 MHz |
|------|------|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------|
| 0000 | 20.8 | | 0 A | 24 A | 22 C | |
| 0030 | 20.8 | | 11 A | 25 A | 23 C | |
| 0100 | 20.7 | 6 A | 17 A | 26 A | 23 C | |
| 0130 | 20.6 | 6 A | 30 A | 27 A | 24 C | |
| 0200 | 20.4 | 24 A | 34 B | 28 A | 24 C | |
| 0230 | 20.3 | 11 A | 30 A | 27 A | 24 C | |
| 0300 | 20.1 | | 13 A | 25 A | 23 C | |
| 0330 | 20.0 | | 0 A | 22 A | 21 C | |
| 0400 | 19.8 | | | 20 A | 20 D | |
| 0430 | 19.6 | | | 11 A | 19 D | |
| 0500 | 19.3 | | | 8 A | 18 D | |
| 0530 | 19.0 | | | 1 A | 16 D | |
| 0600 | 18.8 | | | -2 B | 15 D | |
| 0630 | 19.2 | | | -5 B | 14 D | |
| 0700 | 19.0 | | | -7 B | 13 D | |
| 0730 | 18.7 | | | -10 B | 12 D | |
| 0800 | 18.5 | | | | 10 D | |
| 0830 | 18.5 | | | | 9 D | |
| 0900 | 18.9 | | | | 8 D | |
| 0930 | 19.2 | | | | 8 D | |
| 1000 | 19.5 | | | | 7 D | |
| 1030 | 19.7 | | | | 6 D | |
| 1100 | 20.0 | | | | 5 C | |
| 1130 | 19.9 | | | | 5 C | |
| 1200 | 19.5 | | | | 5 C | |
| 1230 | 19.7 | | | | 5 C | |
| 1300 | 19.9 | | | | 5 C | |
| 1330 | 20.1 | | | | 5 C | 10 D |
| 1400 | 20.2 | | | | 5 C | 10 D |
| 1430 | 20.4 | | | | 6 C | |
| 1500 | 20.5 | | | | 7 C | |
| 1530 | 20.6 | | | | 8 C | |
| 1600 | 20.8 | | | | 9 C | |
| 1630 | 20.9 | | | | 10 C | |
| 1700 | 20.9 | | | | 11 C | |
| 1730 | 21.0 | | | -9 A | 12 C | |
| 1800 | 21.1 | | | -7 A | 13 C | |
| 1830 | 21.1 | | | -5 A | 14 C | |
| 1900 | 21.1 | | | -3 A | 15 C | |
| 1930 | 21.2 | | | -2 A | 15 C | |
| 2000 | 21.2 | | | 0 A | 16 C | |
| 2030 | 21.1 | | | 2 A | 17 C | |
| 2100 | 21.1 | | | 4 A | 18 C | |
| 2130 | 21.1 | | | 10 A | 19 C | |
| 2200 | 21.1 | | | 12 A | 19 C | |
| 2230 | 21.0 | | | 18 A | 20 C | |
| 2300 | 21.0 | | | 20 A | 21 C | |
| 2330 | 20.9 | | -4 A | 22 A | 22 C | |

Signal levels not shown if below -10 dB or if predicted availability is zero.
 Availabilities A: 75 - 100% B: 50 - 75% C: 25 - 50% D: 1 - 25%

REPEATER NEWS.....de WØMJN

Things are moving along very well for the relocation of the EIDX repeater transmitter site from the W4NIM QTH to the Marion water tower, sometime in August. The new UHF antenna and coax were received some time ago and the VHF antenna and hardline arrived just this last week. The main items that remain from a hardware standpoint are to have the antenna mount fabricated, retune the diplexers, and acquire a lockable cabinet for the equipment. We have a line on a cabinet in Ottumwa that KØJØH is checking out for us. Also, even though we have a verbal OK, we still want to get a written authorization from the Marion Water Department to share the facilities at the water tower with the CAP. The last thing we want to happen is to be all installed and then find out they changed their mind.

It seems that the new location at the water tower is going to be great. Last Sunday (July 16th), NUØP and WØWP went to the top of the tower to look over the planned location of the antennas. Besides being a super ground plane, Steve commented that he could see forever in all directions. Tom commented that the top of the tower is very slippery, and it drops off very fast.

Our goal is to move the repeater transmit site sometime during the month of August. In order to minimize the repeater down time, we will initially get all of the antennas and coaxes installed and checked out with the CAP equipment at the water tower. When that has been accomplished, we will then move the UHF link and VHF transmitter equipment from the W4NIM location, hopefully over a single weekend. Standby gang; with the new higher gain antenna and the new location, we should see a significant improvement in the repeater's coverage.

And a final note.....Hats off and a special note of thanks to Bob Hill (W4NIM) who has allowed the EIDX repeater transmitter to remain at his home since it was put on the air back in 1981. Bob has not only provided space for both the transmitter in his shack and the antenna on his tower, but he has paid the electric bill for all these years as well. All of this is in addition to working with KØVM on maintaining the transmit site. Thank you Bob, and good luck on your upcoming adventure.

Have you explored the WARC bands yet? These interesting new bands have quite a bit of good DX on them. Some even count for DXCC. An easy way to work a few easy ones on these bands is to check out the WARC-FEST '89 on Sept 10. Yes, this is a contest but DXers are known to contest occasionally. This is a short contest, only 6 hours, from 18Z to 24Z on the 10th. Frequencies are limited to the 3 WARC bands (24.890-24.990, 18.068-18.168, 10.100-10.150).

Only two categories: 1) CW only 2) Mixed.

The exchange is as follows: 1) Operator's first name 2) QTH (ARRL section or Canadian province or DXCC country) and 3) Antenna type (single word descriptor, e.g. dipole, sloper, yagi, quad, etc.)

Special conditions. 1) A 1 hour time period minimum per band. 2) Stations may be contacted once per band-mode. 3) Existing restrictions on WARC band use must be observed. i.e. license class, power, etc.

Official forms for an SASE to Texas DX Society, PO Box 540291, Houston, TX 77254-0291. Logs need not be submitted, but they do want summaries of contacts by band, section, time. It sounds like it would be smart to get their forms.

The weekend of 20 May saw the first failure in the repeater since I moved here (Sept 87). Two items require some thought and comment.

First, the system has been very reliable. So much so, that we take it for granted and have become dependent on it. The realization that 10 mile paths were not easy when done simplex were sobering to say the least. The convenience of grabbing the handi-talkie anywhere in the house and responding to a call no longer existed. Extra trips to the basement shack to acknowledge a call left their mark on operator and stairs alike. In a word, I have grown very dependent on the repeater and miss it when it is not there.

Second, the reliability of the repeater system is no accident. The diligent folks who thrive on the gentle care-and-feeding of repeater systems quietly go about their business and one never knows they are there. Kudos are due these folks for giving us an absolutely GREAT repeater.

Thanks to K0VM, W0MJN and W4NIM.

de WB8ZRL

From Salt Tablet (The Salt City DX Assoc) via The DX Magazine:

This year, the SCDXA will be participating in the famous April "Phantom Pileup." We will select a band crowded with signals, such as 10, 15, or 20 meters, and choose a time of day when propagation is open to as many corners of the world as possible. For sake of discussion, let us say 20-meter SSB on 14.195 Mhz. All we have to do is pretend that a very desirable DX station is active there and act accordingly. Coaching will be done on the two-meter repeater. We will give our fictitious station a semiforeign name, such as Mario or Jean Paul, but never mention his call sign. (After all, he already knows who he is, right?) At the command from our coach on two meters, we will start to give our calls. Some members will be told to sound hysterical or as if their faces are turning purple from straining. Another will receive the special assignment of saying, "Stand by, Stand by." Of course, we need a few tail-enders. And don't forget our friend south of the border who yells, "SOUT' AMERICA, SOUT' AMERICA," as if he thinks that makes him sound special. A tuner-upper will add realism, now and then. Some of us will read from a script lines such as, "IDIOT, HE IS WORKING TWO'S," "WHO'S THE DX?," and "WHO IS YOUR QSL MANAGER?"

We will take turns working Jean Paul. Portables, such as KS9L and AJ3K will not sign portable. Every third one of us will say "Thank you for the new country," and act very excited, with a quivering voice.

I will use my cutesie phonetics, Karmelkorn Two Swell Dunkin Donuts (K2SDD) and Larry will transmit "What a lid!" over the top of me. The club member who can speak the most fluent Spanish with a gravelly voice will be in charge of "Hola's"

For a change of pace. Jean Paul can work split and we members of SCDXA will be honored to act as policeman. We can stay on his transmit frequency (14.195 Mhz) and yell "He is listening up, dummy." "He is working long path," will make beam headings more mysterious.

The variations are endless. We can even take a list: "OK, gentlemen, all those wishing to work Jean Paul, last two letters please." And don't forget, "QSL's for Jean Paul go to F6FNU." I vote for KN2W as net control. She knows how to politely say, "Jean Paul, did you copy W5UAW? Sorry, W5UAW, no copy. We will put you at the bottom of the list."

And so, Dear DX Club member, there you sit. In front of your expensive rig. You work everyone you call on the first shout. You've worked nearly every country on the list so new ones hardly ever appear. Your envelopes from the Bureau are filled with G's, I's, DL's along with 80 percent SWL's. Isn't it time to try something new? Something exciting. Something fun. What you need is to instigate a good prank. Something clever, where the greatest danger is in splitting your sides. See you on 14.195.de K2SDD

10 Years Ago

The sunspot cycle was nearing the maximum and conditions were very good. DX-peditions abound.

One of the biggest, at least to some of the local DXers, was a trip to one of the North Cook Islands, Penrhyn. Says the ZK1AM QSL card "Our operating site was the beautiful Penrhyn Atoll, the most northern of the Cook Islands. We sailed 13 days and 1600 miles in the ketch Dolly Varden to activate Penrhyn. Over 12000 QSO's were logged on 80 - 10 M. Our thanks to all who helped." signed Tom W0WP who along with ZK1DR, K0SVW and K0EVE added this rare (at the time) country to many logs. Tom has many stories to tell of the race to put on the North Cooks and may someday be talked into doing so. Gosh Tom, has it been 10 years already?

Also active was rookie WD6CDU/KH9, activating Wake Island and the first KH9 prefix. KS6DV traveled to Canton Island and simultaneously was KS6DV/KH1 and VR1PJ (now T31 land). OJ0MA was active from Market Reef, as was VK0PK from Macquarie.

JF1IST/7J1 provided the last activity from Okino Tori-Shima (aka Baldwin's Reef) before country status was revoked.

AS1PN was active on the nets and frequently on his own. OK3TAB/D2A was very active on SSB. These two countries are climbing on the need list of the serious DXers, not seeing any activity since these two operators.

Also active were numerous HS call signs, 3V8ONU, ZS2MI (now using the call ZS8MI), and N4HX/TT8.

All DXers were eagerly awaiting the DX-peditions to very rare 3C, 3C0, and B24 (Equatorial Guinea, Annabon Island, and the Saudi-Iraqi Neutral Zone). These were to be activated later in the year.

BX8AA appeared on 20 cw, claiming to be on Cray Island. He even said his name was 'Slim'. Bet he got no arguments on that!

Now

Tops on the rumor list is the 70 operation by 11RBJ. Start date is about 21 July and duration 6 days. Several callsigns being tossed around. One source says SSB only. Another says 99% SSB because he says he is not a good cw op. Imagine what will happen to the CW Honor Roll if he gives out a 'few' cw contacts. This will be the first operation from 70, the previous callsigns being VS9. This operation will generate pile ups bigger than 3W8DX. More like the 1978 Clipperton operation pile ups. Gud Luck.

EI4GV rumored to go to Mt. Athos and then Albania in early September.

A group of LA's are attempting to raise \$200K to fund a trip to Bouvet around Christmas 1989.

A group of VU's are rumored to try to go to AS.

ZL1AM0 and ZL4D0 rumored to try for North Cook Islands in September.

Remember the 10M openings of last Sept and Oct? It is almost that time of year again, and if ol' Sol cooperates then we could be in for a real treat.

The Russians now seem to have a wee bit more freedom of travel within their borders. Lots of expeditions to rare oblasts, and many of these are in the more difficult countries. When operating portable, their location is easily determined from their call. Numbers in the callsign are important only for UA1, UA2, UA3, UA4, UA6, UA9, and UA0. Other 'countries' seem to use any/all numbers in calls. The other countries, however, will keep the second letter of the call constant (the exception is UB). UH, UI, etc.

ZS8MI continues to be active. His schedule is somewhat variable as is the frequency. However, his activity seems to be: 10M 10Z-14Z, 15M 15Z, 20M 10Z-15Z (long path), 40M 05Z on Mondays (zulu). For the WARC banders, he mentioned activity on 18.110 at 03Z saying he hears stateside, but no one hears him. Cards are now coming out.

KH9 will be active during the CQWW SSB contest. Look for cw before/after.

In the beginning there was a void. And this void had no purpose except to be called Africa. It had no shape or form. It had no DXer. And the Lord saw that this was not good so He called upon the DXers to set forth upon this land and make it fertile with DX and to transform its emptiness into a bastion of RF.

And so it came to pass.

At first He hung the dipole. And He saw that this was good. But not really good. And so He said, "Let there be beams," and there were beams. And He saw that this was better. And He said, "Let there be DX," and there was DX. And He saw that this was good and it pleased. So He worked some.

Then, after a time, the DXer was beseeched upon by the Lord to be fruitful and to become a multiplier. And so it came to pass that a contester was begat.

And the contester begat DX. And the DX begat more DX. And He saw that this was not good. So He begat an Alpha. And the DXer was pleased because he saw that this was good. Actually, he saw that this was very good. And so he became known as Big Gun.

And lo, in time a plague had befallen Big Gun. And its name was called The Net. And he saw that this was not good.

So he QSYed.

But, lo, The Net it did follow him and try to smite him.

And the followers of Big Gun were also smitten with the plague but they were not fearful for they knew that the Lord was with them. They also knew that the Alpha was with Big Gun. And Big Gun proclaimed, "Yea, though I talk through the Valley of the 20 Meters, I will fear no evil. For the power of the three kilowatts art with me."

And it came to pass that the power of the three kilowatts were to be known as The Holy Smoke. And it became known that where there were two or more gathered together to speak with the Holy Smoke that more would surely follow.

And, yea verily, I speak unto you that he whosoever possessith an Alpha and a beam shall not perish from the bands, but have DX forever.

By the power of the DXer, the Big Gun, and the Holy Smoke, may the DX be upon you and remain with you always... contest without end...

Amen

TIDBITS

W0WP - Tom is often found at the site of his future mega-contest station.
W0SR - Persistence pays off in the form of a YI1BGD CW card. congrats.
K0IIR - An all-time first for Clark: he accessed the 5.19 repeater from his home qth, not an easy task from behind that hill. You surprised us Clark.
NC00 - Look out for Tom in the pile-ups, sporting that new IC-765. He already reports that it is very quiet. K0GT - After an unfortunate weekend, when a thunderstorm blew through, Gary now grounds everything. W0EJ - Wade hosts the local DX packet cluster on 144.91 W4NIM - Lots of time spent getting the house ready to sell sure bites into time spent chasing DX. KF0Z - Q. How do you divide your time between packet BBS, a new computer, and DX? A. It ain't easy. KU0A - With a little spotting help from 5.19, Nelson worked the last 2 Russian countries. Congrats. W0IZ - Ask Dale how to plan vacation trips around DX such as 70. AB0M - ZA0CW got Vern's attention. Now if only his name isn't Slim. KB0SY - Rick has troubles with the delivery schedule of QRZ-DX, as do others, especially when his bulletin is stuck inside of ZRL's. W0NB - Jim is the new owner of Burlington's KBUR-am AND KGRS-fm. GL Jim. WE0M - Any truth to the rumor that Tom got a new FT-ONE? N4RR - Roger's antenna system is worth a trip to Sterling. Most of us don't even dream of 100 ft plus self supporting towers. K0VZR - Lots of envelopes bearing stamps with CCCP arrive asking for Tom's help to confirm HL9EP. NU0P - Steve has fairly consistent connects with N4RR on 2M packet. K0GVB - By now the mailman has gotten used to the red/blue envelopes asking Gary to confirm a /C6A QSO. And Gary has caught up with the demand.

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TOM VAVRA WBBZRL
682 Palisades Access Rd.
Ely, Iowa 52227-9717

Jim Spencer
MS 124-115